



# The Indianapolis Radio Club Newsletter

Founded 1914

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## *February 2020 Newsletter*

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### **Upcoming Meetings:**

March 13: Public Service Panel

April 10: ARRL Central Division Director, Kermit Carlson, W9XA

May 2: Indiana QSO Party Operation **NOTES FOR THIS MEETING: This is the Saturday of the Indiana QSO Party. Meeting time TBA. This meeting will be held in the W9IVY Radio Room, operating for the Indiana QSO Party.**

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### **Highlights from the February Meeting:**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 by club president, David Spoelstra, N9KT. There were around 35 in attendance.

Annual dues of \$20 are due and payable now. Dues can be paid at meetings, or checks made payable to Indianapolis Radio Club can be mailed to club treasurer, Mark Burke, W9MGB, 6347 Green Leaves Rd., Indianapolis, IN 46220.

There were several members of the local chapter of the Society of Professional Engineers in attendance to see Dave Arland's presentation.

Greg, N9NWO, announced that the LaPorte Ham Fest is coming up on February 22. *[See announcement later in this newsletter.]* Jeff, N9NIC, announced that the Indianapolis Hamfest has several time slots available for presentations. These can be anywhere from

15 to 60 minutes in duration. Also, the Radio Club needs volunteers to man the club's table at the Hamfest.

Winter Field Day was held at the Salvation Army facility on Georgetown Road. There were 26 in attendance, with 22 operating. The group made 126 QSOs in approximately 4 hours. The chili, cake, and soft drinks provided by the Salvation Army were greatly appreciated by those taking part in this low-key, social event.

An update on plans for this year's Field Day was given by Jeff, N9NIC. The Indianapolis Radio Club will be joined by the American Legion's club at the Speedway American Legion Post 500. Jeff stressed that this will not be a contest, we will instead be focused on training and learning.

At this point, Mike, WA9FDO, gave a corrected explanation of the solution to the Final Jeopardy answer from the Christmas Party. Next, as a short filler while some technical issues were being finalized for the feature presentation, David, N9KT showed part of a video from the 50th anniversary celebration of the Apollo 11 moon landing put together by the Smithsonian at the Washington Monument.

Next, Dave Arland gave his presentation on this year's Consumer Electronics Show at Las Vegas. Dave talked about the fact that many broadcast engineers are at or past retirement age, due to the fact that there are not enough qualified younger engineers coming up. In Indiana, the broadcasters are working with the state's colleges and universities to get some folks "in the pipeline".

Dave said the CES is 4 days in Las Vegas, made up of 4400 Companies, and 170,000 very tired people. After starting in New York City in 1967 and moving around, the CES ended up in Las Vegas, since it's the only place large enough to handle the show. Dave's company, Arland Communications, has 5 full time employees, along with 30 freelancers to cover the show. Dave said that Indiana is one of the leading states in the US for innovation. He said Impossible Foods was at the show with their meat substitutes.

Samsung was showing their modular "Wall" TV, that can be made as big as you want. He had pictures of a Crosley miniature 3" vinyl record player. There were televisions that physically shift from landscape to portrait mode, since that is how most video shot on cell phones is formatted. There were interesting transparent displays shown.

He said the area named "Eureka Park" is where new items are shown. Pet accessories were big. Among the items for pets was an auto feeder for cats, geared toward

households with multiple cats that require different diets. These feeders provide the right food based on the cat's RFID chip, it also has a built in scale to keep the cat from eating too much.

Vintage is big! There were lots of vinyl record players on display, along with Victrola branded table top radios and portable turntables.

NextGen TV (ATSC 3.0) is the next standard for digital video broadcast. ATSC 3.0 will be "IP based", allowing broadcasters to provide more targeted programming and advertising, as well as giving consumers the ability to view "on demand" programming over the air. Dave said there were 20 models of NextGen TVs at the show. NextGenTVs will be on the market the 2nd quarter of 2020. One of the most interesting things on display was a universal translator that was incorporated into an "over the ear" style ear piece. There were also next generation toilets and bidets, and lots of automotive stuff. There were "Nanoleaf" light up panels, that could be used for "light decorating". Lots of overseas-based companies were looking for Angel Funding. Among the more "tongue in cheek" things, was a Smart Potato, that was merely a raw potato with an antenna affixed. There was a prototype "Mega Drone" on display.

As usual, Dave's presentation was very interesting, and very much appreciated!

The meeting adjourned at 9:00.

## **Ham Radio News:**

### **IRC 2020 DUES PAYABLE NOW**

Indianapolis Radio Club Treasurer, Mark Burke, W9MGB, wants to make sure everyone is aware that 2020 dues are now being accepted. Annual dues are still only \$20! Dues can be paid at the next meeting, or checks can also be mailed to Mark at 6347 Green Leaves Road , Indianapolis, Indiana 46220.

Contact Mark with any dues questions at [mark@mgburke.com](mailto:mark@mgburke.com)

## **HAMVENTION 2020 TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE ON-LINE**

Tickets for the 2020 Dayton Hamvention® are now available on line at <https://hamvention.org/purchase-tickets/>.

## **NEW AMATEUR EXTRA QUESTION POOL RELEASED**

If you have been studying the current Extra Class questions, you have until June 30 to take your test with those questions. The new Amateur Extra-class license examination question pool, effective from July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2024, has been released and is available at the National Conference of Volunteer Coordinators (NCVEC) website at, <http://www.ncvec.org/>.

The number of questions in the pool was reduced from 712 to 622. The result was 239 modified questions, 49 new questions, and 139 questions removed due to changes in what was felt to be an abundance of outdated questions, while areas of new technology and subjects were added.

## **STATE QSO PARTY CHALLENGE UNVEILED**

If you want to dip your toes into contesting, here is a nice opportunity. The annual State QSO Party Challenge recognizes all radio amateurs' participation in the U.S. State and Canadian Province QSO parties. It is open to any radio amateur who participates in any of the approved State QSO Parties (SQPs). Participants must simply submit their scores to 3830Scores.com to be included in the Challenge. For all of the details on this new program, point your browser to <http://stateqsoparty.com/>.

## **UPCOMING INDIANAPOLIS AREA TESTING SESSIONS**

Franklin IN 46131-9733  
Sponsor: Mid-State ARc  
Date: Feb 15 2020  
Time: 9:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: Scott W. Nelson  
(812) 320-2790  
Email: scott@w9dba.com  
VEC: LAUREL MD  
Location: REMC Bldg  
750 International Dr  
Franklin IN 46131-9733

Anderson IN 46016-2238  
Sponsor: Anderson Repeater Club  
Date: Feb 18 2020  
Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)  
Contact: Stephen M. Riley  
(765) 425-4627  
Email: smriley@hughes.net  
VEC: ARRL/VEC  
Location: Madison County EOC  
200 Delaware St  
Anderson IN 46016-2238

Columbus IN 47201-7477  
Sponsor: SCICSG  
Date: Feb 18 2020  
Time: 6:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)  
Contact: Michael D. Tanksley  
(812) 350-5175  
Email: kd9eau@gmail.com  
VEC: LAUREL MD  
Location: Columbus Twp. Fire & Rescue  
935 Repp Dr  
Columbus IN 47201-7477

Rushville IN 46173-1846  
Sponsor: Michael Elder  
Date: Feb 22 2020  
Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: Michael Dwight. Elder  
(765) 389-0166  
Email: wj9e1977@yahoo.com  
VEC: ARRL/VEC  
Location: Rushville Public Library  
130 W 3rd St  
Call 4-5days in advance  
to schedule appointment  
Rushville IN 46173-1846

Bloomington IN 47401-5337  
Sponsor: Bloomington ARC Inc  
Date: Mar 07 2020  
Time: 11:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)  
Contact: William F. Wootton  
(812) 876-8689  
Email: wfwootton@gmail.com  
VEC: ARRL/VEC  
Location: First United Church  
2420 E 3rd St  
Register at 11:30am  
Testing at 12 NOON  
Bloomington IN 47401-5337

Anderson IN 46016-2238  
Sponsor: Anderson Repeater Club  
Date: Mar 10 2020  
Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)  
Contact: Stephen M. Riley  
(765) 425-4627  
Email: smriley@hughes.net  
VEC: ARRL/VEC  
Location: Madison County EOC  
200 Delaware St  
Anderson IN 46016-2238

Indianapolis IN 46218-2169  
Sponsor: Indianapolis RC  
Date: Mar 14 2020  
Time: 12:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)  
Contact: James K. Rinehart  
(317) 721-1458  
Email: k9ru@arrl.net  
VEC: ARRL/VEC  
Location: Salvation Army EDS Training Facility  
4020 Georgetown Rd  
Indianapolis IN 46218-2169

Mooresville IN 46158-1333  
Sponsor: Formidable Amt Radio Team  
Date: Mar 18 2020  
Time: 6:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)  
Contact: Bill Spann  
(317) 831-5582  
Email: wlspann@iquest.net  
VEC: LAUREL MD  
Location: Brown Township Government Ctr  
471 N Samuel Moore Pkwy  
also: 3176507528  
Mooresville IN 46158-1333

Franklin IN 46131-9733  
Sponsor: Mid-State ARc  
Date: Mar 21 2020  
Time: 9:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)  
Contact: Scott W. Nelson  
(812) 320-2790  
Email: scott@w9dba.com  
VEC: LAUREL MD  
Location: REMC Bldg  
750 International Dr  
Franklin IN 46131-9733

## FEEL FREE TO SHARE OUR NEWSLETTER

If you belong to any other radio groups, please feel free to share our newsletter with them. They can also sign up to be on our mailing list by filling out the form available at [http://mail.indyradioclub.org/mailman/listinfo/ircnews\\_indyradioclub.org](http://mail.indyradioclub.org/mailman/listinfo/ircnews_indyradioclub.org).

## SEND ME YOUR HAM RADIO NEWS

If anyone has any items for the newsletter, please send them to Ken Bandy at [kj9b@arrl.net](mailto:kj9b@arrl.net)

## Signals from the Past:

**From the February, 1964 *Amachewer*:**

To assist amateurs serving as volunteer examiners for the FCC Conditional, Technician, and Novice tests, ARRL has prepared Form S-45, Certificate of Volunteer Examiner. Form S-45 meets all the requirements of the letter which examiners are expected to write when asking the FCC office in Gettysburg for test papers under the new rules.

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## Upcoming Area Radio Events:

- February 22 – Laporte Cabin Fever Hamfest – LaPorte, IN  
<http://lpcarc.org/hamfest/>
- March 14, 2020, 8:00 - 12:00: Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Association Hamfest and Computer Expo at Clay County 4-H Grounds. Go to [https://www.w9uuu.org/hamfest/hamfest\\_2020.pdf](https://www.w9uuu.org/hamfest/hamfest_2020.pdf) for more info.
- May 15 - 17: Hamvention 2020 at Greene County Fairgrounds and Expo Center, Xenia, OH. Info at <https://hamvention.org/>
- July 10 -11: Indianapolis Hamfest at Marion County Fairgrounds. See <http://www.indyhamfest.com/index.html> for more info.



## 2020 Officers:

- President: David Spoelstra, N9KT – [davids@mediamachine.com](mailto:davids@mediamachine.com)
- Vice Pres.: Dave Miller, K9RTT - [dm0584213@gmail.com](mailto:dm0584213@gmail.com)
- Secretary: Ken Bandy, KJ9B - [kj9b@arrl.net](mailto:kj9b@arrl.net)
- Treasurer: Mark Burke, W9MGB - [w9mgb@arrl.net](mailto:w9mgb@arrl.net)
- Chief Operator: Quinton Ritter, KD9MVK - [qritter@ivytech.edu](mailto:qritter@ivytech.edu)
- Dir. at large: Jim Rinehart, K9RU – [k9ru@arrl.net](mailto:k9ru@arrl.net)
- Dir. at large: Jay Kraus, W9TC - [W9TC@arrl.net](mailto:W9TC@arrl.net)
- Dir. at large: Jeff Hammer, N9NIC - [n9nic@arrl.net](mailto:n9nic@arrl.net)
- Dir. at large: George Taylor, KC9IKD - [jr9554@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jr9554@sbcglobal.net)
- W9JP Trustee: Jay Kraus, W9TC - [W9TC@arrl.net](mailto:W9TC@arrl.net)